

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The listing of claims provided below will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims

Claims 1-34 (Canceled).

35. (Currently Amended) A method for determining the potential for an HBV to exhibit resistance or reduced sensitivity to a nucleoside or nucleotide analog selected from ADV, TTV or FTC or optionally other nucleoside or nucleotide analogs, said method comprising isolating DNA or corresponding mRNA from said HBV and screening for a mutation in the nucleotide sequence encoding HBV DNA polymerase resulting in at least one amino acid substitution, deletion and/or addition in anyone or more of domains F and A through E or a region proximal thereto of said DNA polymerase and associated with resistance or decreased sensitivity to one or more of ADV, TTV and FTC wherein the presence of such a mutation is an indication of the likelihood of resistance or reduced sensitivity to said one or more of ADV, TTV and FTC wherein the mutation screened for in the DNA polymerase is selected from the listing consisting of rtT38K, rtA181V, rtR55H, rtY245H, rtS/T78S, rtV80L, rtN/S18N, rtN/K139K, rtE142V, rtA/T181A, rtL204M, rtQ/P/S/Stop215S, rtE/K21E, rtN/H238H, rtT128N, rtN236T, rtL180M, rtQ215S, rtT128S, rtN238T, rt180L, rtL204M, rtN238T, rtI187V, rtN248Q, rtS2560, rtI122V, rtA181-T, rtL180M, rtA/V200V, rtM204V, rtV214A, and rtH237H/P, rtV253G, rtN238T/A, rtN238T, rtN123N/I, rtS135Y, rtV214AIV and rtQ215Q/P/Stop/S.

Claim 36 (Canceled).

37. (Currently Amended) A method for determining whether an HBV strain exhibits reduced sensitivity to ADV a-nucleoside or nucleotide analog, said method comprising isolating DNA or corresponding mRNA from said HBV and screening for a mutation in the nucleotide sequence encoding the DNA polymerase ~~wherein the presence of a mutation in a region selected from the F to G domain, between F and A domains, the A domain, between the A and B domains, the B domain, between the B and C domains, to C domain, between the C and D domains, the D domain, between the D and E domain and the E domain or combinations thereof or an equivalent one or more other mutation is indicative of a variant wherein said variant exhibits a decreased sensitivity to one or more of ADV, TTV and FTC optionally other nucleoside or nucleotide analogs wherein said nucleotide sequence variant comprises a mutation in the DNA polymerase selected from the list consisting of rT38K, rA181V, rR55H, rY245H, rS/T78S, rV80L, rN/S118N, rN/K139K, rE142V, rA1T181A, rL204M, rQ/P/S/Step215S, rE/K21E, rN/I238H, rT128N, rN236T, rL180M, rQ215S, rT128S, rN238T, rI180L, rL204M, rN238T, rI187V, rN248Q, rS256G, rI122V, rA181T, rL180M, rA/V200V, rM204V, rV214A, and rH237H/P, rV253G, rN238T/A, rN238T, rN123N/I, rS135Y, rV214A/V and rQ215Q/P/Step/S.~~

Claims 38-52 (Canceled).

53. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 35, wherein the presence of said mutation is an indication of the likelihood of resistance or reduced sensitivity to ~~at least one of ADV or TTV~~.

54. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 37, wherein said variant exhibits a decreased sensitivity to ~~at least one of ADV or TTV~~.